

SECTION 4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Mission, Vision and Values

Within the Department of Economic Security (DES), the Division of Developmental Disabilities (the Division or DDD) is responsible for providing community developmental services and supports to over 16,000 Arizonans with developmental disabilities and acute care only or case management only to an additional 5,000 Arizonans with developmental disabilities. In carrying out this responsibility, the Division's mission is:

“To support the choices of individuals with disabilities and their families by promoting and providing within communities, flexible, quality, consumer-driven services and supports.”

The Division's vision is:

“Individuals with developmental disabilities are valued members of their communities and are involved and participating based on their own choices.”

This results in the Division supporting a program that values:

- ❑ Healthy relationships with people;
- ❑ Individual and family priorities and choices;
- ❑ Equal access to quality services and supports for all individuals and families;
- ❑ Partnerships and ongoing communication with individuals, family members, advocates, providers, and community members;
- ❑ Developmental approaches – changing conditions that affect people rather than changing people who are affected by conditions;
- ❑ Individual freedom from abuse, neglect and exploitation with a balance between the right to make choices and experience life and individual safety;
- ❑ A diverse workforce that is motivated, skilled and knowledgeable of and uses the most effective practices known;
- ❑ An environment rich in diversity in which each person is respected and has the opportunity to reach their optimal potential;
- ❑ An individual's right to choose to participate in and contribute to all aspects of home and community life;

- ❑ A system of services and supports which are:
 - Responsive – timely and flexible responses to internal and external customers;
 - Strength based – recognizing people’s strengths, promoting self-reliance, enhancing confidence and building on community assets;
 - Effective – ongoing identification of effective methods and practices and incorporation of those practices into operations; and
 - Accountable – to our customers and to the taxpayers.

4.2 Program Eligibility

To be eligible for services a person must be an Arizona resident who has a chronic disability that:

- ❑ Is attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy or autism;
- ❑ Was manifested before the age of 18;
- ❑ Is likely to continue indefinitely; and
- ❑ Reflects the need for a combination and sequence of individually planned or coordinated special, interdisciplinary or generic care, treatment or other services that are of lifelong or extended duration.

The disability also must result in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:

- ❑ Self-care
- ❑ Receptive and expressive language
- ❑ Learning
- ❑ Mobility
- ❑ Self-direction
- ❑ Capacity for independent living
- ❑ Economic self-sufficiency

Children under the age of six years may be eligible for services if there is a strongly demonstrated potential that the child is or will become developmentally disabled but for whom no formal diagnosis has been made.

Individuals who are determined eligible for services through the Division may also be eligible for services through the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) program administered by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System Administration (AHCCCSA). Individuals who may be eligible for ALTCS are referred to AHCCCSA for ALTCS eligibility determination. (See A.R.S. 36-559 and Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.), Chapter 6, Title 6, Articles 3, 4 and 5 for a more detailed description of the eligibility determination process.)

4.3 Program Description

The 2006 Legislative session authorized the Division to establish Behavioral Analysis Training services for Habilitation providers under House Bill 2371. The excerpt from A.R.S. 36-574 states:

“Subject to Legislative appropriation, in addition to any existing autism services, the Department may provide children’s autism services through the Division of Developmental Disabilities to service children who have, or who are at risk of having, autism by entering into a contract with any organization for training and oversight of habilitation workers to utilize intensive behavioral treatment through applied behavioral analysis.”

Additionally under Section 35 of the legislation the Division received an appropriation of \$200,000 for the funding of the service.

This RFQVA is seeking Qualified Vendors that will provide classroom training to habilitation direct service staff that are either employees of the Qualified Vendor, employees of other Qualified Vendors, or Independent providers that have an independent services agreement with the Division. The Division will provide a training curriculum or the applicant may submit a curriculum to the Division’s Behavior Support Manager for review and approval.

The total amount of training that will be provided by all Qualified Vendors under this RFQVA is limited by the amount of appropriations available for this purpose.